BULLETIN FROM

Virginia Kirkus' Bookshop Service 439 East 51st Street

Vol. IV December 1, 1936 No. 23

(At this season of the year, we manage to scramble together a scattering of January titles, not actually representative of the month's output, but enough to lay the groundwork for the new season. The key index sheets have doubtless already reached you. The index for the current issue includes, along with the books in this issue, those 1937 titles which were reported November 15th, so your new index sheets will cover Spring lists accurately. Please note special instructions for their use.)

MUST BOOKS

(This heading indicates books for which there is an established market - not necessarily books which we, personally, consider "literature" but which we feel assured you can sell with the minimum of effort.)

January 2

Lawrence, Josephine THE SOUND OF RUNNING FEET Stokes

The amazing popularity of *If I Have Four Apples* and its predecessor, *Years Are So Long*, indicates a waiting market for "thesis novels" based on universal human problems. This again complies with the regulations which indicate success, and the style shows a distinct advance over the earlier books. The characters are drawn from the small staff of a real estate office, badly hit by the depression, and holding on by the eyelids. Ignoring the employers' problems, the younger members of the organization attempt to whip the others into line in a concerted stand for greater financial security - and fail. In the course of the story, the reader is taken into the lives of every protagonist, and sympathy is jerked hither and yon. Depressing, because of the futility and inescapable truth of it all. There are many facets that will touch on many lives. A sure seller and renter, to the market which absorbed the other books. $2.50

January 5

Kaye-Smith, Sheila ROSE DEEPROSE Harper

(Repeated from August 15th issue, at which time the book was scheduled for October.)

* "The recent Kaye-Smith novels have dealt with remote problems and periods, religious controversies and family feuds. Now with *Rose Deeprose* she returns to the type of book one associates with her *Joanna Godden* period. The setting is Kent - the period post-war - the people farmers. And it is with such that she is at her best. There are murky depths in the seeming simplicity of surface characters; there is Christian, who must possess, whether it be Rose herself, or Rose's father, or Rose's husband - or simply the attention of those around. There is Rose, a hard inflexible core in a seemingly pliable exterior, critical, withdrawn - and finding herself only through her passion for the child she bears, and strength to take her stand only when the father demands that the child be sent to an institution. Her trial and the finale let one down a bit; they seem to strain toward the sensational. But all in all it is better Kaye-Smith than we have had recently, and should be able to recapture her old market." An important title - will be substantially advertised and promoted. $2.50

January 5

Robinson, James Harvey THE HUMAN COMEDY Harper

(Repeated from September 1st issue at which time it was scheduled for October.)

* *Mind in the Making* made best seller lists, perhaps the first of its kind to crash the gates. There was no tabloid presentation of 'profound' dinner table conversation, but actually a stimulus to doing some thinking along abstract lines, under a brilliant guide. From that time to the time of his death, much of the time spared from teaching and lecturing went into preparation for this book which was in shape for final draft when he died. Harry Elmer Barnes has done the finishing touches and written an introduction....A tremendously important book for such markets as the Carrel book. The Robinson name and the tie-up with *Mind in the Making* are important. A book sure of front page critical comment and important space in advertising and promotion.....Woven through a survey of the progress made in historical thought, in philosophical approach, in the direction of life by man himself, one gets Robinson's theory of the challenge in science and religion and philosophy and history to use the past for the benefit of the present and future, to improve human society and human surroundings. He acknowledges that man has never been able to adapt himself perfectly, that we are today struggling to hold on to the outworn, to justify a thing because it exists. He pleads for a new education, a new democracy, a chastening of nationalism, an acceptance of history as a widening of our own understanding through extension of memory. Sell to your thoughtful readers. Intellectual snob appeal - still rife - will sell it for you to many others. Ranked as publisher's big non-fiction title, so count on publisher backing. $3.00

January 8

Roeder, Ralph CATHERINE DE' MEDICI *and The Lost Revolution* Viking

The Man of the Renaissance established Ralph Roeder as an interpreter of historical periods. Now, with *Catherine de' Medici* he strengthens his right to be considered a sound historian and chronicler, with an extraordinary grasp of the intricacies of one of the most complex and troubled periods in Europe. Primarily, the book is a graphic picture of the political and religious struggles, the intrigues that split court and state and church, the jealousies that severed families. Secondarily, it is a portrait of Catherine, little Italian princess, thrust-unwanted-into a position of power which she came to recognize only in the years of her regency. Kept in the background, she yet emerged in crises to show her power as arbitrator, as organizer, as politician--and as mother of kings. It is not so popular a book, in its development, as *The Man of the Renaissance*. Readers interested primarily in the human element, in a picture of the social life of the times, will be disappointed. Scholars - readers avid for historical detail - will find this a tremendous achievement, a permanent contribution to the study of the period. The market for Hackett's *Francois Premier*, will find this essential reading. $3.~~50~~ 75

January ~~25~~ 18

Yeats-Brown, Francis LANCER AT LARGE Viking

Lives of a Bengal Lancer piled up a substantial sale. The film version added to its popular laurels. This successor has a somewhat different appeal, - Though the Bengal Lancer rides again, the adventure element is almost wholly lacking. Those who read the earlier book for its mysticism and philosophy will find this even more to their taste. Those who are interested in the reforms of modern India, - social, educational, administrative, will consider this an important book. But primarily, it is a portrayal of the essentially mystic life of the Hindus, their contribution to the occult world. The "pageant of religious history" and the minutiae of the various schools of oriental mysticism - legend, belief and current practice - reveal a thorough understanding of Indian cults. Not for wide sales, but important. $2.75

January 29

Guedalla, Philip THE HUNDRED YEARS Doubleday, Doran

A book that comes heralded from England, where it is very successful. Guedalla, though never a "best seller", has an established coterie of readers. This is certain to increase their numbers. A refinement of the camera eye method, applied to the high spots, the focal points, of the past hundred years, in the Western World. Almost one feels that the sweeping panoramic scenes of *Cavalcade* have widened to compass two continents, and a century - 1837-1937. Impressionistic, rather than interpretative, but extremely well done, and challenging one's thoughtful consideration.
Prepublication price - $2.75 Post publication price $3.00

~~January~~ ?? March 26 10.

Bell, E. T. MEN OF MATHEMATICS Simon & Schuster

This is a puzzler. There's a chance that it may catch the popular fancy. Frankly, I doubt it - for the title is a poser, and many people - like myself - turn pale at the sight of a problem in mathematics. But, once that hurdle is taken, and a policy of judicious skipping adopted, without apology, anyone with an intelligent interest in a new angle on human development, an appreciation of a superbly executed piece of difficult welding together of unfamiliar and ungetatable material, and a sense of dramatic writing, a gift of anecdote, and a genius for swift delineation of personalities, will find this absorbingly interesting. My advice is to sell it on these terms. Don't camouflage the fact that the book bristles with mathematical obscurities, save to the initiates. But assure your customers, that they can skip the mathematics and get a lot out of the balance. And for those who like mathematics - it's a natural. The author delves into the distant past, but rapidly brings his subject up to date (though his exclusions are surprising). Zeno, Archimedes, Descartes, Fermat, Pascal, Newton, Euler, Lagrange, Fourier, Gauss, Abel, Galois, Poincare, Cantor and many lesser lights. Publishers backing with enthusiasm - and when S & S backs a book, they back it! $5.00

On Eve of Publication

Lockart, Bruce RETURN TO MALAYA Putnam

* (Apologies for the lateness of the report - but we did our share of nagging, without results). The author of *British Agent* continues his personal story with an interlude - a vacation - in which he "returns to Malaya", the scene of his first serious escapade, his romantic love affair with the Malayan girl, twenty five years before. It is more definitely a travel book - less an autobiography - though the recounting of his wanderings, the cruising through the islands of the Mediterranean, the Suez Canal, the Red Sea, on and on to the Malayan Archipelago, Java and back, - abounds in personal anecdotes and the unfolding of his own story, on a limited canvas. The best book for the traveler (in fact or imagination) interested in that part of the world that I have encountered. One gets not only the "feel" of the countries, but an insight into their political, social and economic conditions and the historical background. Lockart has a genius for spinning a yarn - and he doesn't let his readers down in this new book. A good bet for last minute Christmas gifts, as it is unlikely to be a duplicate. $3.00

GOOD BETS IN THE GRAB BAG

There's a new Marquand, *The Late George Apley* (Little, Brown) - but read the report before taking it for granted. There's a new Kelland, *Spotlight* (Harper). There's a dark horse that has possibilities in Caroline Gordon's *The Cup of Fury* (Scribner). And, in mysteries, there's an Ellery Queen, *The Door Between* (Stokes). Reports follow.

PROBLEMATICAL BOOKS - *Fiction*

(By "problematical books", we simply mean that the markets are not readymade, nor established for every bookshop. We aim to indicate, through the individual reports, whether the individual book fits *your* bookshop or book department. Sometimes, we may seem to "straddle" - this is because we don't want to damn a book for the department store rental library, by condemning it for the personal bookshop. Please try to interpret us for your own problem.)

January 2

Worsley-Gough, Barbara — A FEATHER IN HER CAP — Putnam

Superior in technique and characterization to the run of the mill rental library item which the jacket and blurb would lead one to expect. Comedy-romance, dealing with six young people on a romantic trip to the musical festival at Salzburg. A sprightly tale, smoothly written - might be more amusing, but definitely above average. $2.00

January 4

Marquand, John P. — THE LATE GEORGE APLEY — Little, Brown

One feels that John Marquand has written this book with tongue in cheek at times - with certain personal bitterness yearning for expression - but with occasional acceptance, albeit unwilling, of the traditions and ideals and standards of his forbears. Certainly he laid aside his accepted role of spinner of yarns. He ignored the established rules of the fiction form. If he did not tap authentic sources in letters and diaries, he deliberately conveyed the impression of authenticity in his manner and matter. And the results? A fictional biography of a gentleman of the old school, Boston personified in the character of George Apley. He pokes gentle - or bitter - fun at Boston and the Bostonians, but he does it out of his character's own mouth and pen. It is the sort of book that every Bostonian will take seriously, even to placing the minor characters. And it is a book that will have its biggest sale, I feel sure, in and around Boston. They wont like it - but they will read it and talk about it endlessly. Recalls *The Perennial Bachelor*. $2.50

January ~~20~~ 22

Kelland, Clarence Budington — SPOTLIGHT — Harper

Another successful time passer, but not, I think, as funny as *The Cat's Paw*. A socialite rebels against the routine of her life, becomes a success as singer in a night club, and through putting the "silent partner" in his place, becomes the target of his revenge. With the help of an admitted fortune hunter and her grandfather, Nadia routs the blackmailers, and finds the man she wants to marry. Entertainment with a moral flavor. $2.00

January 20

Smith, Stevie — A NOVEL ON YELLOW PAPER — Morrow

"This is a foot-off-the-ground novel that came by the left hand....If you are a foot-on-the-ground person, this book will be for you a desert of weariness and exasperation. So put it down. Leave it alone." -Thus the author - and this reader, and two others on whom I tried out the galley proofs, qualify unreservedly as foot-on-the-ground persons. (1) I frankly acknowledge I don't know what the book's about. (2) I don't care. (3) I wont believe anyone who says he or she likes it. Briefly, I'd characterize it as Gertrude Stein at her least intelligible, plus a bit of Opal Whitely faking, plus a few ingredients of shockers for false measure. As you can see, I didn't like it, so I am not fair to it, and I think you'd better have a look at it yourselves, since the publishers are all steamed up about it, and they aren't usually as crazy as this would indicate. $2.00

January ??

McCord, Joseph — THE RETURN OF JOAN — Macrae Smith

A bit on the dullish side - a summer romance gets tangled up in a minor sort of mystery. Pass it up. $2.00

January ??

Bahr, Jerome — ALL GOOD AMERICANS — Scribner
With an introduction by Ernest Hemingway

A group of short stories which cross section the alien element of a small Wisconsin town through the portrayal of certain individuals. Akin in treatment to the Zola-Celine school of realism. The author seems to see for the most part the primitive and bestial and ignorant aspects of his lower classes. Unpleasant - somewhat distorted - it is a moving series of stories, for he manages to catch the sympathy of the reader through the very weaknesses of his people. Sordid in detail, often verging on obscene, but none the less skillful characterization, with flashes of humor, a certain poignancy, and distinction. $2.~~00~~ 50

2-5-37
~~January ??~~
None Shall Look Back

Gordon, Caroline — ~~THE CUP OF FURY~~ — Scribner

The analogy with *So Red the Rose* and *Gone with the Wind* is so sure to be made that one might use that as a springboard. Similar in setting and period - the Civil War, Georgia, Kentucky, Tennessee, West Virginia backgrounds. Large family with far-reaching connections. Dramatic handling of not too hackneyed campaigns and battles. Here the resemblances cease. The method of telling the story is that of *War and Peace*, with shift from front to front, and from war scenes to home scenes, without transition. The military aspects of the book are its best - men will like the handling of strategy and the excellent depicting of such historical figures as General Bedford Forrest. The fictional characters are well drawn in the case of the men; shadowy in the case of the women. The war psychology is skillfully done. There is a note of authenticity that gives it power. It somehow misses fire, though one feels that the author knows her South and has a rare gift for creating atmosphere and the spirit of the times. $2.~~50~~ 75

RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR INCLUSION IN AN EARLIER ISSUE

Walton, Evangeline THE VIRGIN AND THE SWINE Willet, Clark

This is the fictionization of certain myths and legends taken from the last book *The Mabinogi*, the ancient epic of Wales. Faintly reminiscent of the Arthurian cycles, it is a narrative of chivalric adventure, wizardry, enchantments, more supernatural than natural. The legends in themselves will appeal to anyone fascinated by charms and black magic, though they are more than that, with a bit of philosophy, everyday wisdom, social conduct, etc. interspersed. Stylistically one feels that the prose, though adequate, is never as poetic as the substance would seem to demand. It is a book to know about - if inquiries come - but not to buy. $2.50

MYSTERIES, THRILLERS AND WESTERNS

January 4

Bower, B. M. THE NORTH WIND DO BLOW Little, Brown

A Western not of the hard riding and shooting school. The romance of an independent schoolma'm and an equally independent cowboy which is complicated by a terrific snowstorm and a slight mystery. For relaxation purposes. $2.00

Daly, Carroll John THE EMPEROR OF EVIL Stokes

Episodic treatment of a New York detective's efforts to catch a "mastermind" blackmailer. Plenty of action revolving around the "killer" detective and the "girl of the shadows". $2.00

January 14

Queen, Ellery THE DOOR BETWEEN Stokes

** Ellery Queen and a private detective, Terry Ring, keep old Inspector Queen at bay while they ferret out proof that a girl who is accused of the murder of a prize winning woman novelist is innocent. A clean cut piece of work. Recommended by the Book-of-the-Month Club. $2.00

January 15

Goldman, R. L. OUT ON BAIL Coward, McCann

A doctor arrested for murder saves his life while out on bail by discovering the real criminal. His trial ends with the guilty person revealed. Good idea. $2.00

January ~~28~~ 20

Beeding, Francis MURDERED: ONE BY ONE Harper

Detective Inspector Martin of Scotland Yard exposes a clever madman who strikes at the members of a literary society in a small English town. Usual foot and finger print complications - with divergent methods of murder employed. (Repeated from the July first issue, when it was scheduled for September 3rd). $2.00 ✓

Terhune, Albert Payson UNSEEN 1-20 Harper

A counterfeiting gang, a brainy yet brawny hero, a girl to match, and an old man with a mysterious power over bees, and a collie. There is little of the dog and much attempt at mystery - which is not over successful. Only fair. $2.00 ✓

January ??

Gerard, Francis THE 1-2-3 MURDERS Holt

More plot - and characters - than you can shake a stick at in the mystery of the bank robberies, and other crimes, so ably directed by cunning 1-2-3. Meredith of the C. I. D. is eventually successful in his sleuthing, but a flock of other detectives hinder his work. The English idea of Americans is, again, funny. $2.00

PROBLEMATICAL BOOKS - *Non Fiction*

~~January~~ 4 February 5/37 ✓

Austin, Jean MEXICO IN YOUR POCKET Doubleday, Doran

A brief, snappy guide book to Mexican travel, with condensations of the historical background. Emphasizes trip to Merida and Mayan ruins and takes in highlights of regular sightseeing objectives. Pictures promised indicate a good -looking book - definitely a "steamer package" item, with full color illustrations by Vaslav Marinsky. + from photos. $2.50 ✓

January 5

Thach, Stephen C. PAINTING AS A HOBBY Harper

Another book in a very satisfactory series - and one that will find a wide market among amateur artists. The instructions are clear and constructive; anyone interested in following them should find them suggestive and stimulating. Frankly, confessing to abysmal ignorance of the technical aspects, I can only say that a young art student who looked it over for me says "It's good". Definitely belongs in the "how-to-do" class. $1.75

Pratt, James B. PERSONAL REALISM Macmillan

First, don't sell this to anyone groping for a practical philosophy or self-help book, or to anyone who has not mastered the tools of philosophical thought and concepts. Second, unless you have a sound and fairly extensive basis of knowledge of modern philosophy, with its ramifications and developments, better accept the publisher's definition of content and call it to the attention of such of your customers as are professionally interested in the subject. The layman who will be able to read it intelligently is unique. It is a mature statement of dualistic realism and a defense of the theory of inter-action between mind and body. The first third deals with matters of definition; the balance analyzes the hypotheses of realism, the rise of new realistic interpretations; he examines the relation of body and spirit, the personal being, God and his relation to the world. He advances arguments pro and con, and defines his own position and the reason back of it. Definitely a book for students of philosophy. $2.50

January ~~11~~ 25

Newman, Ernest THE LIFE OF RICHARD WAGNER Knopf

* The second volume of the memorable work has been long anticipated, and you should find a market in all customers to whom the first volume was sold, in 1933. Not only was the first volume accepted as the definitive work on Wagner from the viewpoint of musical criticism, but also as a scholarly biography, brilliant and absorbingly interesting. The second volume carries the story forward from 1848 through the Dresden Revolution, the changing Ring cycle, the disaster of the Paris Tannhauser episode, the relations with Liszt, to 1862. New material - letters, official records - give this added importance. An essential stock item for steady turnover. $5.00 ✓

January 14

Essad-Bey, Mohammed NICHOLAS II: *Prisoner of the Purple* Funk & Wagnalls

* Vital, moving biography which clarifies a grossly calumniated figure who, though a failure on the throne, was essentially sensitive and human, the old-world victim of new ideals. Authentic memoirs and contemporary source material have been consulted, and a tragic and dramatic record is the result. Objective, unbiased, but sympathetic portrait, against a background of unrest in Russia, the beginnings of the World War, and revolution crashing about his head. The focus is definitely on the man himself, rather than on his period, and the resulting biography is tremendously interesting reading. $3.00

Haslip, Joan PARNELL Stokes

* "The uncrowned king of Ireland" - his life, political growth and tragic romance is presented in detailed, yet readable form. The famed Irish patriot, who came so near his aim for his country, only to lose all in the scandal created by Katie O'Shea's divorce, is an interesting figure - his lack of interest in Ireland turned into calculating yet brilliant efforts on her behalf, his solitary life in England into which Katie O'Shea came - and conquered all too well - his relations with his lieutenants, friends and enemies, his methods in Parliament, etc. This does the man full justice and gives an understandable picture of the fight Ireland was making for her independence. A clear-cut, human figure emerges. $3.00

January 15

Ernst, Morris K. THE ULTIMATE POWER Doubleday, Doran

A timely analysis of the origin of the Constitution and evolution of the amendments thereto, and the growth of the power of the Supreme Court, written vividly for the general reader. There seems, unfortunately, to be a plethora of books on the Constitution, with almost too much sameness in the conclusions, i.e. that the present conflict between the interests of individual states and the need for a centralized national power was present at the start, and the Constitution was born of a compromise therefrom; that the Founders were not the prophets many claim them to have been; that the feeling that the Constitution is sacrosanct has no basis in fact. There is less of the personal history of individuals - more of a general analysis of the problems, past and present. Morris Ernst is admirably equipped to speak on the subject, particularly in view of the close study he has made of the problems today, and the ways of meeting them. $3.00

Hagood, Maj. Gen. Johnson WE CAN DEFEND AMERICA Doubleday, Doran

A thoroughly constructive and very timely work, if only it could reach the proper outlets. Should be of interest to every thinking citizen, as it contains all the answers to the arguments for building up an offensive war machine, all the answers to the claims that our present equipment and budget is inadequate for defense. Step by step, the author analyzes our own army, navy, air force, coast defense, reserve, in relation to our needs, to potential powers, to demonstration in the World War of weak links in the chain which have their counterpart here. In summing up the needs, he shows that with what we have, with our budget, with our resources at peacetime strength, we could have adequade defense, And he outlines a general reconstruction of man power, munition power, and method of training, organization and control for efficient operation of what is now a badly balanced and awkward force. Interesting reading - and a challenge. $2.50

January 15

Jerome, Helen JANE EYRE Doubleday, Doran

Book of the forthcoming play. Sell to those who like to build a library of current plays, rather than to those who enjoy reading a play for its own sake. This reads artificially, the style seems stilted; constantly one tries to sense how it can be cast to overcome the awkwardness of the dramatization. $1.75

Kinel, Lola THIS IS MY AFFAIR Little, Brown

* First rate entertainment in the biography of a Polish woman, whose home was Russia, from which she escaped with her grandmother and sister to Warsaw, during the Revolution. From then her career was filled with variety, color, adventure, romance. As secretary-interpreter to Isadora Duncan and her Russian husband, her trip to America, successive jobs, a marriage for friendship - which didn't work - Hollywood - writing. An intimate journal, - young love, human contacts, background details, steps of her growth, reflections on things, people, situations. An interesting piece of work. $3.00

Terhune, Albert Payson A BOOK OF FAMOUS DOGS Doubleday, Doran

An omnibus of true dog stories:- dogs of kings, of authors, of Terhune himself, ghost dogs, hero dogs, freak dogs. The tales themselves vary in interest, inevitably; sometimes they are personal, sometimes over-sentimental, usually straightforward narrative, informal in the telling. Should appeal to all dog lovers. $2.75

Illus Robert L Dickey

~~January~~ 19 ~~3/2/37~~ 4-6-37

Dunlap, Orrin E. MARCONI: *The Man and His Wireless* Macmillan

The two - "the man and his wireless" - are inseparable. Therein lies both the strength and the weakness of this biography. Read for the history of wireless, its inception, its roots, its development, it will be interesting to anyone who is interested in any facet of the subject; read for the story of a personality, it will be disappointing. Marconi, from boyhood, lived for his invention in all its ramifications. He is almost pallid, as a human being. The few personal facts seem bare of all the embellishments that make biography come alive. And yet as a scientific biography, a world success story, the story of Marconi is unparalleled. One feels the author has squeezed the last bit out of every available source of material - but that he could not do the impossible. Rather technical for the average layman. Sell to older boys - radio fans - scientists. $3.50

Read, John PRELUDE TO CHEMISTRY Macmillan

A scholarly and somewhat ponderous account of the history of alchemy based on extensive research in the literature of the subject. The author has exhausted his material - and, unconcerned with the problem of selection, has produced a large volume weighted with footnotes. It is intended for at least a semi-technical audience, its avowed purpose is to bring to the "wearied servants of the laboratory" a comprehensive outline of chemical history - and for such it may have appeal. At the outside its field is highly specialized, very limited. $4.50

February 16
~~January 26~~

Slaughter, Gertrude THE AMAZING FREDERIC Macmillan

The history of Frederic II, King of Sicily and "Emperor of the Romans", a scholarly piece of research, and an important reference book for public and college libraries. Here was a man who lived before his time. A mathematician, an astronomer, an ornithologist, an organizer of amazing vision and imagination, a poet and patron of letters - he is a vivid, dramatic figure. His life was full of color and adventure; his struggles with the pope, his efforts to unite the Holy Roman Empire without too close allegiance to the papal throne, all affords material for a ready pen. As here presented, however, it is a book for the historical student rather than the general reader, a bit pedantic, and unduly biased in analysis of the man himself. Illustrated with pen and ink sketches. $4.00

Wilson, Neill C. SILVER STAMPEDE February 16 Macmillan

* Subtitled "The Career of Death Valley's Hell-Camp, Old Panamint" this is the story of the discovery and rediscovery of the famed silver minesand here are anecdotes, factual material and authentic Western stories that make entertaining reading. The people who were lucky and those who weren't - the bartenders - the women - the old-timers of every kind - all are colorfully portrayed and all the incidents in the career of this rowdy town are told with humor and vitality. For your men readers who have a leaning towards Westerns, American mining history, etc. A worthy successor to the earlier *Treasure Express*. $3.00

~~January 29~~ March

Chapman, Wendell & Lucie WILDERNESS WANDERERS Scribner

Mr. & Mrs. Chapman are already known through their true animal stories for younger readers, through lectures and magazine articles. This is their personal story of how they came to give up the city for the wilds. A simple and charming account of their journeyings through woods and state parks, their trips by motor, boat, by ski and on foot, their animal friends, their aim in conservation of wild life. Occasionally one senses a bit of propaganda for going back to nature. A book that will appeal to older boys and girls as well as to the Peattie market. Illustrated with photographs. 3.75

RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR INCLUSION IN EARLIER ISSUES

Published

Kent, Rockwell, illustrator GISLI Harcourt, Brace

An Icelandic saga, translated by Ralph B. Allen, and illustrated by Rockwell Kent. The rugged simplicity of the legend - a tenth century hero tale - is sustained in the translation. The Rockwell Kent illustrations are quite different from the style to which he has accustomed us, for he has interpreted the primitive quality of the saga with bold, simple, heavy line and stiple background, instead of the flexible handling of the woodblock which he has perfected. Interesting, but not standard Rockwell Kent. A gift book, for Kent collectors and for people interested in northland material, and folk lore. $2.50

Chalmers, Patrick HISTORY OF HUNTING Lippincott

(This report should have appeared in the Sporting supplement, so add it to your Sporting Book Index). *Lonsdale Library title.

* Whether you hunt or not this is a book to fascinate you, educate you and probably convert you to the Meynellian following. As a combination of myth, legend, information and explanation, it is a rare accomplishment, while for charm and absorbing reading for sportsmen, it is unsurpassed. Hunting in mythology, in the Bible, in days of chivalry, in various countries and periods - the whys and hows of the good old days. A perfect book on which to whet the public's appetite for a full set of the Lonsdale Library. Perfect gift for your hunting friends. $7.50

Morley, Christopher CHRISTOPHER MORLEY'S BRIEF CASE Lippincott

Here's a "pamphlet book" for that plus sale for those who want something a bit more than a card for a friend who likes his Morley. Brief bits that have appeared in the Saturday Review - and elsewhere; humor, verse, pungent commentary on the passing show - Morley typically Morley. And delightful for an odd reading hour. More of the same promised if this goes well, so keep track of your "satisfied customers." $ .25

Announcing

A popular dramatic series to be issued by Liveright, to include all possible Broadway successes. Paper covered. Sale for drama study courses - women's clubs, etc. $ .75

First two titles in the series:-

Randolph, Clemence & Colton, John RAIN
Flavin, Martin CRIMINAL CODE

Guerard, Albert ART FOR ART'S SAKE Lothrop, Lee & Shepard

A provocative and serious analysis of the timeless precept, written by a man of unusual scholarship. He traces first the evolution of this school of esthetics, then discusses art in relation to money, prestige, morality, propaganda, religion, etc. Lucid - undogmatic. He justifies functional art, in its place, claiming that pure art exists for art's sake alone. Value lies only in its stimulating discussion and in its contribution of significant material about literary trends and personages. $3.00

Gow, A. S. F. A. E. HOUSMAN: *A Sketch* Macmillan

The poet figures more as a scholar than as the author of *A Shropshire Lad* and very little light is thrown on his creative side. The result is a disappointment to all who love his poetry. The balance of the picture is painstakingly done. His academic career is traced, his scholarship searched and applauded. One feels that Housman the man and the poet still remains for another biographer to present. This is a one dimensional figure, limited in scope and appeal. $1.75

PLEASE NOTE THESE CHANGES IN TITLE, DATE AND PRICE

		Page
Ferber & Kaufman	- STAGE DOOR (Doubleday, Doran) from 11/20 to 12/4	387
Hutchinson, R.C.	- SHINING SCABBARD (Farrar & Rinehart) - Final date 12/28/36 - January Book of the Month Club Selection	379
Woodward, W. E.	- A NEW AMERICAN HISTORY (Farrar & Rinehart) - Final date 12/4/36 - Alternate selection of the Literary Guild for January	445
Mees, C. E. K.	- PHOTOGRAPHY (Macmillan) from 11/4 to 1/12/37. Price from $3.50 to $4.00	442
Moore, A. L. J. D.	-JOHN ARCHBOLD AND THE STANDARD OIL COMPANY (Macmillan) Reported for 11/17/36 and withdrawn from publication	390
Field, Peter	- Title from HUNTING MESA to MUSTANG MESA (Morrow)	474
Van Dusen, W.	-THE LOG OF THE CHINA CLIPPER (Morrow) from 10/14/36 to 2/8/37	359
Carmack, Jesse	- Title chosen: THE TELL-TALE CLOCK MYSTERY (Stokes)	474
Guttmacher, A. F.	-INTO THIS UNIVERSE (Viking) from 11/16/36 to 1/15/37	444

NOTE: Brown, H.C. - FROM ALLEY POND TO ROCKEFELLER CENTER (Dutton) reported on page 460 was reported also on page 363 under the title of BARNUM'S CHERRY COLORED CAT (Scribner). Consolidate reports.

THE NEW YORK OFFICE CALENDAR - - DECEMBER 15th TO 30th

December 28	- Hawkins, D. - IN MEMORY OF MURDER (Doubleday, Doran)	441
	- Hutchinson, R. C. - SHINING SCABBARD (Farrar & Rinehart) January Book-of-the-Month Club Selection	379

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ge

687

379

445

442

390

474

359

474

444

441

379

BULLETIN FROM

Virginia Kirkus' Bookshop Service 439 East 51st Street

December 1, 1936

SPECIAL DEPARTMENTS FOR PLUS BUSINESS
Edited by Gene Simmonds

RELIGIOUS BOOKS

Avey, A. E. — RE-THINKING RELIGION — Holt

Starting from the premise that though there are souls who need not re-think their religion there are many who do, Professor Avey has gone step by step in a most illuminating and scientific manner. There is originality of thought, clarity of expression and an energetic, living quality that stimulates and convinces the reader. A book for all wide-awake moderns, laymen, preachers or schools and colleges. $2.00

Bertrand, Louis — THE ART OF SUFFERING — Sheed & Ward

This book examines and attempts consolation for man's tragic problem of old-age, pain and death. The tone is neither ascetical nor catholic, but rather continental in mingling the classics and Christianity. The author is well-known in French intellectual circles. The sort of book for which you can find plenty of customers if you are interested in personalizing your shop. $3.00

Bliss, Geoffrey — A RETREAT WITH SAINT IGNATIUS *(Juvenile)* — Sheed & Ward

Caryl Houselander has done a full page illustration on each theme. It works rather like a game - look at the picture - what do you see - this is the story - now look again. It is the kind of book that children will like and from which they will learn many a useful lesson. He presents but twelve meditations - the familiar Ignatian ones. Others have exposed the exercises more at length. Few have done so as clearly.

This book should be put in the hands of all grammar-grade children. Principals of your parochial schools will welcome it as an excellent means of teaching *children* to act not by impulse but on principle. Directors of retreats also will find Father Bliss' work of valuable assistance to them. $1.25

Father Bruno, O.D.C. — SAINT JOHN OF THE CROSS — Sheed & Ward

*** If your customers have fallen in with the renewed interest in the doctrine of St. John of God, they'll simply have to read Father Bruno's life of this Saint. The book is a study of the life and person of the Doctor of the Universal Church. It is a full-length biography based on methods of right historic criticism. Not only the historian but the ascetic as he reads along will be delighted with abundant references used by the author to establish clearly and certainly his thesis on St. John and his doctrine. Both historian and ascetic can and will be sure of their knowledge as they accompany Father Bruno from page to page. The documentation is so abundant

and thorough that future study of the life of St. John can only supply details. No wonder the book has been "crowned" by the French Academy. All lovers of the Little Flower, of the great Reformer St. Teresa, and of the ancient Order of Cramel will want a copy of this book for their desk. The library of every religious community should count the book for its own. And by the way, the book should make excellent reading for religious men and women. $5.00

Castiello, Jaime S.J., Ph.D. A HUMANE PSYCHOLOGY OF EDUCATION Sheed & Ward

*** The ultimate reasons for recommending this book are admirably stated by Louis J. A. Mercier of Harvard University...."It may well now be asked whether it would not be appropriate for American schools of education to *widen* their offerings by presenting to their students the data for realistic as well as for monistic interpretations of human activity?....And so it would seem worth while, now that we have fully explored anew the possibilities of the least promising of our two fundamental alternatives, monism, in the conception of reality, to re-examine more closely whether the other, hallowed as it is by centuries of the spontaneous belief of the race *as well as by the reasoned allegiance of so many powerful thinkers throughout the ages*, may not be proved to be the more founded in fact as well as the more pragmatically valuable?" The re-examination referred to is carried out with a sweep and copiousness of illustrative material and quotation not often parallelled. The Author - Father Jaime Castiello's own education as well as his antecedents are the best guarantee of a production that envisages every factor and takes note of every aspect of the problem of humanistic formation. Educated in Mexico and England, Spain and Germany, observing over a prolonged period educational *practice* besides taking deep and penetrating cognizance of the theory from the point of view of the conflicting systems, he is eminently qualified to pronounce authoritatively. $2.50

Gilkey, James Gordon GETTING HELP FROM RELIGION Macmillan

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Gray, Canon John (translator) THE TRUE PRAYERS OF SAINT GERTRUDE AND SAINT MECHTILDE Sheed & Ward

This small devotional volume presents the authentic prayers of two 13th century Benedectine nuns and mystics. The prayers are charming in their tenderness and simplicity. Some are for everyday concerns and actions; others for great feasts and mysteries of the Catholic faith. It will appeal to prayerful laity as well as to priest and religious. $1.50

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An Abridgment and Re-arrangement

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Kunkel, Fritz WHAT IT MEANS TO GROW UP Scribner

For anyone who likes to read up on behaviorism, psychology, etc., here's the book. By no means restrict its sale to the 'teen age, for there are plenty of the fat and forty ages who have never grown up and probably never will unless they fall upon the sane and sensible type of advice that this book contains. Not too technical, very tactful, very clear and extremely helpful - good for schools and colleges as well as individual customers. $3.50

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(Juvenile)

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Lippert, Peter, S.J. JOB THE MAN SPEAKS WITH GOD Longmans, Green
Translated by George N. Shuster

This is an excellent translation of a fascinating conversation between Job, the man of perpetual difficulties, and God. All the problems of the world, of man and of Job seem to be our problems and the answers are as applicable today as they were in Job's hours of trial. One of those rare books that should *not* be earmarked Catholic and shown only to priests. It is good for anyone. $2.50

Martindale, C.C., S.J. WHAT ARE SAINTS? Sheed & Ward

A delightful book that makes captivating people out of seventeen dead saints. They come to life and move about with power and personality that has an almost fairy tale quality. You expect the clock to strike and whisk them away. Yet instead they are summed up again to leave with the reader principles as vivid as their personalities. Good lives of the Saints are scarce - keep this on hand. $1.00

Martindale, C.C., S.J. CHRISTIANITY IS CHRIST Sheed & Ward

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McSorley, Joseph THINK AND PRAY Longmans, Green
(of the Paulist Fathers)

A group of prayers, meditations, heavenward thoughts - call them what you will - deeply spiritual, completely practical in touching our lives and problems, and excellent devotions. For all who take time to think and pray, your religious customers and those who *say* they practice mental prayer for mental stimulus. $1.50

Mossner, E. C. BISHOP BUTLER AND THE AGE OF REASON Macmillan

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A book of devotion for Catholics composed by a nun of a contemplative order. The "songs" are the soul's aspiration towards God her Maker. Mystical experience is here interpreted by sound theology. $2.50

Walker, J. B. R. WALKER'S COMPREHENSIVE CONCORDANCE TO THE HOLY SCRIPTURES Macmillan

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White, Helen C. THE METAPHYSICAL POETS *(A study in religious experience)* Macmillan

*** Most of your customers who are interested in the spiritual and metaphysical will remember Miss White as the author of a novel they read, liked and sent their friends, *A Watch in the Night*. Here she studies the religious background of her poets and each individual religious experience as it affected his life and his work. It is a splendid piece of work on an extremely difficult subject. $3.00

Note: Here are three books from the large list of Morehouse - there are dozens of others, courses, pamphlets, books,etc., all worthy of special note and fitting every need, purpose and occasion. These three merely give a cross section of the new text books available.

Brookman, Alice M. MY OWN LIFE OF CHRIST Morehouse

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1.10 paper

Palmer, Lola C. and Leon C. LEARNING ABOUT GOD AND HIS WAY Morehouse
(Christian Living Series)

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$ .75